

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ REPORT

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SUBJECT Dissension Among Yugoslav Moslem Refugee Groups

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 25X1X

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1. On 24 February 1951 the Organization Musulmane Yougoslave, 47 Rue Bisson, (XXe), Paris, addressed a letter to the Pan-Islamic Congress in Karachi protesting against a petition delivered to the Congress by a group of Moslems from Yugoslavia who are now displaced persons in the Middle East. This letter opposes the alleged claim of these refugees to be Croats and their demand for the establishment of an independent Croat state.
2. The Organization Musulmane Yougoslave, also a refugee group, claiming to be legitimate representative of the Moslems of Bosnia-Hercegovina, requested the Pan-Islamic Congress to consider these Moslem petitioners as war criminals and Ustashi collaborators responsible for the death of about 120,000 Moslems in Yugoslavia. The letter claims that cooperation with this group would alienate the majority of Yugoslav Moslems from their Islamic brothers in the Middle East and would be the more regrettable in that "our religious and spiritual ties are more necessary today than ever, during this struggle which is leading free humanity against the domination of atheistic Communism". It adds that the Moslems never have been, nor want to be, Croats.
3. The letter concludes with the request that the Pan-Islamic Congress refuse all protection and collaboration "to these persons who have sinned against our Islamic community and who, through their intrigues and lies, are checking us in our efforts towards the restoration of democracy in our Yugoslav homeland, where we Moslems have every possibility of conserving forever our ethnic and religious entity".
4. The letter was signed by former Deputy Becir Djoniagic and former Deputy Kajmakovic on behalf of the Organization Musulmane Yougoslave.

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